

Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 RSR-01 /103 W

----- 026050

R 241700 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5627

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 3470

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PE

SUBJECT: SECVISIT LA: PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS OF LIMA
VISIT

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY' S VISIT HERE RESULTED IN CREATING A BETTER
ATMOSPHERE FOR U. S.- PERUVIAN RELATIONS AND ONE MORE CONDUCIVE TO
SETTLEMENT OF OUR CRIPPLING BILATERAL DISPUTES. END SUMMARY.

2. VISIT BROUGHT SECRETARY AND SENIOR DEPT. OFFICERS OFF PAGES OF
NEWSPAPERS AND INTO OFFICES OF PERUVIAN LEADERS, ESTABLISHING
PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WHICH SHOULD MAKE FUTURE EXCHANGES EASIER.
SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHT WAS PRESIDENT VELASCO' S INITIATIVE FOR
NEARLY TWO- HOUR DIALOGUE WITH SECRETARY DESPITE FORMER' S STATE OF
HEALTH AND FACT HE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED ANY FOREIGN
DIGNITARIES SINCE HIS SURGERY.

3. ATMOSPHERE IMPROVED FUNDAMENTALLY BY SECRETARY' S EARLY USE OF
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OPPORTUNITY (IN ARRIVAL STATEMENT) TO COUNTER MYTH THAT U. S. SEEKS DESTROY PERUVIAN REVOLUTION AND OPPOSES PERUVIAN NATIONALISM OR SOVEREIGNTY. FURTHERMORE, SECRETARY' S INSISTENCE THROUGHOUT VISIT THAT U. S. RECOGNIZES CHANGE IN LA AND WANTS DIALOGUE AS BETWEEN EQUALS PREEMPTED TWO OF MILGOV' S FAVORITE CUDGELS.

4. PERUVIAN ATTITUDES WARMED MARKEDLY DURING COURSE OF THE ONE WORKING DAY IN LIMA. EARLY DRAFTS OF FONMIN' S AFTER- DINNER REMARKS DID NOT REFLECT WARMTH OF FINAL VERSION WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY A RESULT OF SECRETARY' S ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND MORNING MEETINGS WITH DE LA FLOR AND PRESIDENT. ADDITIONALLY IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT PRIME MIN. MERCADO' S TOUGH COMMENTS IN MAY 16 MORNING PRESS CONFERENCE ON OCCASION RENAMING OF NAVY CRUISER NOT REFLECTED IN HIS SUBSEQUENT COMMENTS NOR IN FINAL VERSION OF FONMIN' S DINNER REMARKS. IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS DURING MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY AND MERCADO LATE IN AFTERNOON MAY 16 THAT LATTER HAD NOT GOT WORD OF CHANGED SIGNALS.

5. VISIT ALSO GAVE MILGOV CHANCE TO SHOW THAT PERU NOT SO HOSTILE TO U. S. AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN THOUGHT. VISIT MAY HAVE HAD SOME DOMESTIC POLITICAL BENEFITS FOR MILGOV IN DEMONSTRATING TO CRITICS OF GOVT' S LEFTWARD TREND THAT U. S. HAS NO QUARREL WITH PROGRAM OF SOCIAL CHANGES.

6. MOST SIGNIFICANT IMMEDIATE RESULT OF VISIT WAS AGREEMENT ON PARTIAL RESUMPTION OF FMS. THIS AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS FIRST MAJOR POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS IN MANY MONTHS, PROVIDES EARLY RELIEF FROM PRINCIPAL IRRITANT TO SENIOR MILITARY IN GOP AND COULD OPEN WAY TO TRUCE IN TUNA WAR. (THIS LATTER IS SUBJECT SEPARATE CABLE .)

7. AS TO OTHER DISPUTES, BOTH SIDES WERE ABLE DECLARE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SEEK SOLUTIONS AND TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. EACH COULD ASSURE THAT OTHER COMPREHENDS ITS POSITIONS AND ITS DIFFICULTIES IN MAKING MAJOR CONCESSIONS. THUS BROAD UNDERSTANDING WAS REACHED BOTH ON NATURE OF DISAGREEMENTS AND ON DESIRABILITY OF NEGOTIATING SOLUTIONS.

8. IN SEPARATE CABLE WE WILL BE SUBMITTING SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FOLLOW- UP ACTIONS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM OF POSITIVE RESULTS OF VISIT.

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TAGS: OVIP, PE
To: ARA
BOGOTA
BRASILIA
BUENOS AIRES
CARACAS
MANAGUA
MEXICO

RIO DE JANEIRO
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